

CITY OF BISMARCK DEFERRED SICK LEAVE ACCOUNT

INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

1. FUND CHARACTERISTICS AND CONSTRAINTS.

The City of Bismarck Deferred Sick Leave Account (the Fund) represents money set aside to cover the City's unfunded liability of employees' accrued sick leave. People who terminate employment with the City shall be compensated for unused sick leave from this Fund. In time, it is expected that the Fund will become depleted.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES AND DISCRETION OF THE STATE INVESTMENT BOARD (SIB).

The City of Bismarck (Client) has entered into a contract with the SIB for investment services as allowed under NDCC 21-10-06. It is the responsibility of the Client to establish policies on investment goals and asset allocation of the Fund. The SIB is charged with implementing these policies and asset allocation and investing the assets of the Fund in a manner consistent with the prudent investor rule as provided in NDCC 21-10-07.

At the discretion of the SIB, the Fund's assets may be pooled with other funds. In pooling funds, the SIB may establish whatever asset class pools it deems necessary with specific quality, diversification, restrictions, and performance objectives appropriate to the prudent investor rule and objectives of the funds participating in the pools.

The SIB may delegate investment responsibility to professional money managers. When a money manager has been retained, the SIB's role in determining investment strategy and security selection is supervisory, not advisory.

The SIB is responsible for establishing criteria and procedures and making decisions with respect to hiring, maintaining, and terminating money managers. This responsibility includes selecting performance measurement services, consultants, and report formats and determining the frequency of meetings with managers.

The SIB will implement changes to this policy as promptly as is prudent.

3. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES.

The investment objectives are to obtain a reasonable rate of return on the Fund while maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet known or anticipated financial obligations. Operating considerations shape the Fund's policies and priorities as outlined below:

Objective #1: Investment income is needed as a funding source. This will be achieved through a diversified portfolio of high quality fixed income and equity assets.

Objective #2: Growth of capital is needed to provide an inflationary hedge and add to the growth of the Fund. Capital growth is sought through investment in equities and/or equity substitutes.

4. STANDARDS OF INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE.

The Fund's investment objectives and liquidity constraints give rise to an asset allocation that is considered the most likely to achieve the results desired. For evaluation purposes, the following performance targets will apply:

- a. The Fund should produce a rate of return that meets or exceeds the portfolio policy index defined as 15% S&P 500 domestic stock index, 5% Russell 2000 domestic small cap index, 10% MSCI EAFE international stock index, 65% Lehman Aggregate domestic bond index, and 5% 90-day Treasury bills.
- b. The annual standard deviation of total returns for the Fund should not exceed that of the policy portfolio.
- c. Over 10 year and longer time periods the Fund should match or exceed the expected 6.00% rate of return based on Callan Associates' 2005 market projections. Expected risk for the period, measured by standard deviation, is 6.50%.

5. POLICY AND GUIDELINES.

The asset allocation of the Fund is established by the City of Bismarck, with input from RIO staff. Asset allocation is based upon the appraisal of projected liquidity and income requirements and sick leave payment demand, and estimates of the investment returns likely to be achieved by the various asset classes over the next five years.

In recognition of these factors, the following allocation is deemed appropriate for the fund:

Large Cap Domestic Equity	15 %
Small Cap Domestic Equity	5 %
International Equity	10 %
Fixed Income	65 %
Cash Equivalents	5 %

Rebalancing of the Fund to this target will be done in accordance with the SIB's rebalancing policy.

While the SIB is responsible for establishing specific quality, diversification, restrictions, and performance objectives for the investment vehicles in which the Fund's assets will be invested, it is understood that:

- a. Futures and options may be used to hedge or replicate underlying index exposure, but not for speculation.
- b. Derivative use will be monitored to ensure that undue risks are not taken by the money managers.
- c. All assets will be held in custody by the State Investment Board's master custodian or such other custodians as are acceptable to the State Investment Board.
- d. No funds shall be borrowed.
- e. No unhedged short sales or speculative margin purchases shall be made.
- f. Social investing is prohibited unless it meets the Exclusive Benefit Rule and it can be substantiated that the investment must provide an equivalent or superior rate of return for a similar investment with a similar time horizon and similar risk.

For the purpose of this document, Social Investing is defined as *"The investment or commitment of public pension fund money for the purpose of obtaining an effect other than a maximized return to the intended beneficiaries."*

- g. Economically targeted investing is prohibited unless the investment meets the Exclusive Benefit Rule.

For the purpose of this document economically targeted investment is defined as an investment designed to produce a competitive rate of return commensurate with risk involved, as well as to create collateral economic benefits for a targeted geographic area, group of people, or sector of the economy.

Also, for the purpose of this document, the Exclusive Benefit Rule is met if the following four conditions are satisfied:

- (1) The cost does not exceed the fair market value at the time of investment.
- (2) The investment provides the Fund with an equivalent or superior rate of return for a similar investment with a similar time horizon and similar risk.
- (3) Sufficient liquidity is maintained in the Fund to permit distributions in accordance with the terms of the plan.
- (4) The safeguards and diversity that a prudent investor would adhere to are present.

Where investment characteristics, including yield, risk, and liquidity are equivalent, the Fund's policy favors investments which will have a positive impact on the economy of North Dakota.

6. EVALUATION AND REVIEW.

Investment management of the Fund will be evaluated against the Fund's investment objectives and investment performance standards. Evaluation will be conducted quarterly by the SIB through its review of funds participating in the Insurance Trust.


Money managers will be evaluated by the SIB quarterly. In-state meetings will be held with the money managers at least annually.

Approved by:

CITY OF BISMARCK


Chuck Klein
Director of Human Resources

STATE INVESTMENT BOARD


Steve Cochrane
Executive Director/Investment Director, RIO

Date: 6-16-05.

Date: 6-17-05